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Statement of Response to the Filing of Discriminatory Bills

Austin, Texas - University Democrats stands vehemently opposed to a set of discriminatory bills filed by Representative Ron Simmons and Senator Bob Hall for the upcoming special legislative session.

- HB 46 and HB 50 would prohibit political subdivisions and school boards from adopting and enforcing any ordinances or policies designed to protect a group from discrimination as it relates to bathrooms, changing facilities, and showers.
- SB 23 would prohibit political subdivisions from enacting any policies or ordinances that protect a group of people from a class of discrimination not outlined in our state's code. Furthermore, it would make null and void any such policies currently employed by political subdivisions.

University Democrats issued the following statement:

“We see these bills for what they represent, repeated attempts to dehumanize and discriminate against our state's' transgender population. Transgender individuals have long felt the sting that accompanies dehumanization and ostracization. We opposed the "bathroom bill" and will oppose these and any bills like them that seek to divide, isolate, and discriminate against our transgender brothers and sisters.

We saw the troubling economic realities that threatened to harm our state during the debate over the “bathroom bill”. We saw business threatening to pull operations, and studies predicting billions of dollars in losses.

We oppose discrimination in all of its forms and urge the legislature to vote down these bills.”

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